Nala Ragsdale

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It was such a great experience to interview Dr. Gary Robson. It was a great way to learn about more about accountants and what they really do and the different types of writing they do. I had a chance to know what kind of writing he does and who he writes for. I got a chance to find out the purpose of the writing he does. This interview was really a great experience.

In any field of work you have to write. But there are different types of writing for each field. As I was interviewing Dr. Robson, I asked him about the types of writing he does as an accountant. He explained to me that accounting is an information system. Therefore, in that business you are disseminating information. Most of the information is in the reports. In this field of work you have to write notes about details. The writing in this field of work you must be precise and get straight to the point. Time is money and they are not concerned about being entertaining as much as effective and efficient.

On an average day everyone does some type of writing. As an accountant it varies. There are different types of accountant so the writing for all of them is different because they have different jobs to do. There are financial accounting, tax accounting, management accounting, not-for-profit accounting, forensics accounting, and auditing.

There are a lot of reasons why people write. Some people write to express themselves. Some people write to relieve stress. Other people write because it’s their job. Dr. Robson reason to write is to communicate. In the field of accounting there is a lot of information that needs to be relayed to other people. Accounting need to give information to a party so decisions and evaluation can happen.

Accountants write for a variety of different reasons and people. There are so many different accountants. Financial accountants write for lenders and investors mostly. They write a little for the government. Tax accountants write for taxpayers, both individuals and businesses. They also write for the government, state, local and federal. Management accountants write for managers of businesses of all levels. Not-for-profit accountants write for businesses and the government. Forensics accounting writes for the government (policing agencies and courts). Auditing write for external auditing for investors and lenders and government. Internal auditing writes for businesses and managers.

Dr. Robson is the chairman for accounting at Bloomsburg University. He has to write reports for Bloomsburg University. For example, teaching evaluations and strategic plans. He also writes research articles for publication. He also writes letters of reference letters for students and letters to prospective students and their parents.

Dr. Robson also reads a lot in his spare time. His favorite research article he admires is an Empirical of Accounting Income Numbers. Written by Ray Ball and Philip Brown. He says this was the article that moved accounting research into theory based empirical research paradigm from the practitioner paradigm.